



Department of Justice

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**CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 33 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FOR FAILING TO REGISTER**

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA - Billy Ray Ellis, age 47, of Lebanon, Kentucky, was sentenced to spend 33 months in federal prison for failing to register as a sex offender, U.S. Attorney George L. Beck, Jr., announced today.

. In May 2011, Ellis pled guilty to one count of failing to register as a sex offender as required by the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act. In 2003, Ellis was convicted of Sexual Abuse First Degree in Kentucky and sentenced to four years in jail. In pleading guilty to failure to register as a sex offender, Ellis admitted that he registered as a sex offender in Kentucky in 2006 and understood that he was required to register in any state in which he relocates. Ellis further admitted that he relocated from Kentucky to Kinsey, Alabama, in June 2010, but did not register as a sex offender in Alabama. U.S. Attorney George L. Beck, Jr. stated, "A convicted sex offender must register in any state in which he or she relocates, becomes a resident, has employment, is a student, or carries on a vocation. These laws will be strictly enforced."

Chief United States District Judge W. Keith Watkins sentenced Ellis to 33 months in prison to be followed by 10 years of supervised release. Ellis remains in the custody of the United States Marshals Service pending placement by the Bureau of Prisons.

This case was investigated jointly by the United States Marshals Service and the Houston County Sheriff's Office. Assistant United States Attorney Jerusha T. Adams prosecuted the case.